

Message Text

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ACTION OES-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 ACDA-05 CIAE-00

INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 RSC-01 FEAE-00 EB-07 SWF-01

AGR-05 INT-05 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 XMB-02 /072 W

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R 191610Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8875

INFO USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AEC GERMANTOWN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 8461

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TECH, CI, US

SUBJECT: CHILE-U.S. NUCLEAR COOPERATION

REF: A. BA 8262; B. IAEA VIENNA 9723

1. AEC SCIREP APPRECIATES CLARIFICATION PROVIDED REFTEL (B)
RE U.S.-CHILE CONVERSATIONS IN VIENNA WHICH WERE PRELUDE
TO STATEMENTS MADE TO HIM BY CONTRERAS (REFTEL A).

2. REFTEL (A) REPORTED HOW CONVERSATIONS IN VIENNA WERE
UNDERSTOOD BY CONTRERAS AND LOW STATE TO WHICH HE, RIGHTLY
OR WRONGLY, FELT THAT U.S.-CHILE NUCLEAR COLLABORATION
HAD SUNK.

3. WE IN NO WAY WISHED FIND FAULT WITH ANY STATEMENTS MADE
TO CHILEANS BY MISSION OR IAEA REPS, BUT MERELY TO NOTE
HOW MUCH STATEMENTS CAN BE INTERPRETED AND PERHAPS EVEN
MISUNDERSTOOD. INTENT OF OUR SUGGESTION RE FUTURE
CONVERSATIONS RE NUCLEAR COLLABORATION WITH NON-NPT
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PARTIES WAS THAT FLAVOR OF SUCH DISCUSSIONS SHOULD

LEAVE REQUESTING GOVT. WITH COMPLETE PICTURE OF REALITIES OF SITUATION. WHEN STATUS OF NPT ADHERENCE WOULD NOT, IN FACT, MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE (AS SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN TRUE IN LA REINA FUEL CASE), THEN IMPORTANCE OF NPT ADHERENCE IN SUCH CONNECTION SHOULD NOT BE OVERSTRESSED, LEST THAT COUNTRY DOES DECIDE TO ADHERE, EXPECT FULFILLMENT OF SOME SPECIFIC ASSISTANCE, AND THIS NOT PROVE POSSIBLE. OF COURSE, IF INDEED SUCH ASSISTANCE MIGHT BE PROBABLE TO A PARTY, BUT NOT TO A NON-PARTY, THIS IS ANOTHER MATTER.

4. RE PARA 6 REFTTEL (B), CONTRERAS SAID CHILE WAS TOLD BY HALL THAT NPT ADHERENCE WAS ONE OF 3 CONDITIONS CHILE WOULD HAVE TO FULFILL TO OBTAIN LO AGUIRRE FUEL FROM IAEA. CHANGE TO CIVILIAN AUTHORITY WAS ANOTHER. CHILEAN ARMY (UNDER ALLENDE REGIME) FOUND THIS IMPOSSIBLE.

5. RE PARA 7 REFTTEL (B), MISSION IS CORRECT RE TIMING OF SPANISH COOPERATION.

6. RE PARA 8 REFTTEL (B), CHILE'S POLICIES DO NOT APPEAR SO PUZZLING WHEN ONE CONSIDERS ITS SITUATION. SEPT. BOG SUPPORT FOR ARGENTINA PERHAPS COULD HAVE BEEN HEADED OFF BY FRANK PRIOR DISCUSSION. WITH BENEFIT OF SUBSEQUENT ACDA TEAM VISIT AND LA REINN INAUGURATION VISITORS, WE THINK CHILEANS MIGHT NOW VIEW DISARMAMENT MATTERS IN A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE. IN ANY EVENT, THERE IS LITTLE NEED, IN OUR VIEW, TO PRESSURE THE CHILEANS ON NPT WHEN THE REAL ACTION AROUND HERE IS WITH THE ARGENTINES AND BRAZILIANS. IF THOSE TWO CAN REACH SOME KIND OF AGREEMENT, CHILE COULD WELL COME ALONG MOST EASILY. IN THE INTERIM, CHILE SEEMS WELL DISPOSED TO ACCEPT STANDARD IAEA SAFEGUARDS.
MONTLLOR

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